

Claims

1. A screening method for determining whether a compound is useful for treating, stabilizing, or preventing a condition in a mammal selected from the group consisting of a higher than desired total body weight and a higher than desired percentage of body fat, said method comprising measuring VEGFR1 activity in a cell, tissue, or mammal in the presence and absence of said compound, whereby said compound is determined to treat, stabilize, or prevent said condition if said compound decreases VEGFR1 activity.
2. The method of claim 9, wherein said compound is a member of a library of at least 5 compounds, all of which are simultaneously administered to said cell, tissue, or mammal.
3. The method of claim 9, wherein said compound decreases the level of VEGFR1 mRNA or protein, an activity of VEGFR1, the half-life of VEGFR1 mRNA or protein, or the binding of VEGFR1 to a receptor or to another molecule.
4. The method of claim 9, wherein said compound is an anti-VEGFR1 antibody.
5. The method of claim 9, further comprising administering said compound to a mammal in need of said treatment.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein said mammal is obese.
7. The method of claim 5, wherein the percentage of body fat in said mammal decreases by at least 10%.

9. A method of treating, stabilizing, or preventing a higher than desired total body weight or a higher than desired percentage of body fat in a mammal, said method comprising administering to said mammal a compound that decreases VEGFR1 activity in an amount sufficient to treat, reduce, or prevent a higher than desired total body weight or a higher than desired percentage of body fat.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said compound decreases the level of VEGFR1 mRNA or protein, an activity of VEGFR1, the half-life of VEGFR1 mRNA or protein, or the binding of VEGFR1 to a receptor or to another molecule.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein said compound is an anti-VEGFR1 antibody.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein said compound inhibits angiogenesis in said mammal.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein said compound inhibits differentiation of preadipocytes in said mammal.

14. The method of claim 9, wherein at least two compounds that decrease VEGFR1 activity are administered to said mammal.

15. The method of claim 9, wherein said compound is administered intravenously, parenterally, subcutaneously, intramuscularly, ophthalmically, intraventricularly, intraperitoneally, orally, topically, or intranasally to said mammal.

16. The method of claim 9, further comprising administering a compound that inhibits angiogenesis to said mammal.
17. The method of claim 9, further comprising administering a compound that inhibits VEGF signaling to said mammal.
18. The method of claim 9, wherein said mammal is obese.
19. The method of claim 9, wherein the percentage of body fat in said mammal decreases by at least 10%.
20. The method of claim 9, wherein said mammal is a human.